

## What is Move to Amend?

Please educate yourself about the Move to Amend effort to amend the US Constitution and undo the *2010 Citizens United v FEC* Supreme Court ruling. Attend the “Legalize Democracy” film in the library on Sunday, April 7 following the service or watch it at home by going online: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCo3saK6P8Q0gPohrBtJxplg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo3saK6P8Q0gPohrBtJxplg)

The congregation will vote at the April 14 Annual Meeting whether to join UUA, UUSC, and UUJusticeFlorida as an endorsing congregation.

Move to Amend’s “We the People” Amendment directly confronts the fact that *Citizens United* was only the latest in a long history of “corporate personhood” rulings. Corporations have become our invisible government through incremental changes to the law grounded in the fiction that corporations are people rather than legal entities created for the convenience of doing business.

## Environmental Aspects of Cell Phones

Every year, major phone companies unveil their newest and best phones. Think about what goes into making a new phone:

- Mining for cobalt, a key component of cell phone batteries, is an industry rife with child labor that exposes children to dangerous working conditions and heavy metals.
- Workers in manufacturing factories are exposed to toxic chemicals, and they aren't always provided with proper safety equipment or trainings, which can lead to fatal illnesses.
- 85-95% of a cell phone's carbon emissions for the first two years of its use comes from mining for resources and the manufacturing of the phone.

No tech company is going to talk about *that* when selling you a new phone. [This guide from Green America](#) has helpful pointers for what to do when you've exhausted your options, and how to responsibly dispose of your phone when the time comes.

[from *Green America* e-mail message, Feb. 26, 2019]

## CIW Makes Progress in Wendy's Boycott

After years of building their case to kick Wendy's off campus, students at the University of Michigan have won their battle to “Boot the Braids” until the fast-food giant joins the Fair Food Program of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW). The



decision sends an unmistakable message to the administrators of other schools where students are demanding that Wendy's put human rights on the menu or take its business elsewhere. The other

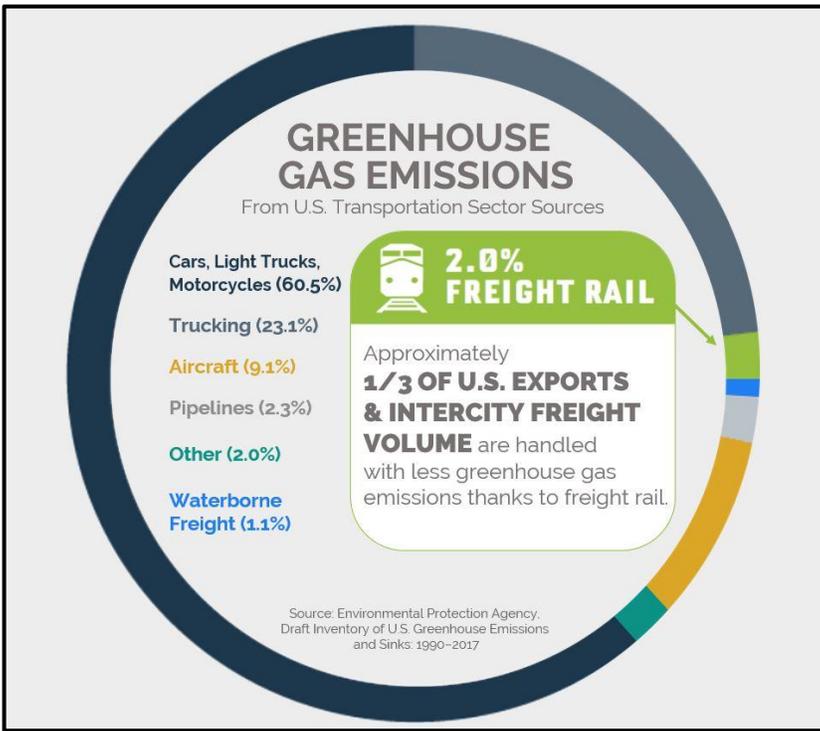
three universities on the “4 for Fair Food” tour are UF, UNC, and OSU. The University of Florida Student Government recently escalated student pressure on Wendy's and on UF President Kent Fuchs by voting unanimously to call on the UF administration to cut the university's contract with Wendy's until the fast-food giant joins the Fair Food Program. For more information about the boycott of Wendy's restaurants and to take action, go to: <http://ciw-online.org/wendys/>

[from CIW-online.org, Feb. 26, 2019]

## Which toilet paper to buy?

NRDC's Toilet Paper Sustainability Scorecard makes it easy to see if what grade your toilet paper gets for sustainability — and to make a switch if necessary. [from [actions@nrdc.org](mailto:actions@nrdc.org), March 8, 2019]





**Railroads are the most sustainable way to move freight over land**

**Fuel Efficient Mode.** Freight rail is ahead of other land modes of transportation when it comes to limiting its carbon footprint. U.S freight railroads, on average, move one ton of freight 479 miles per gallon of fuel.

**Sustainable Choice.** If just 10% of the freight moved by the largest trucks moved by rail instead, fuel savings would be more than 1.5 billion gallons per year and annual greenhouse gas emissions would fall by more than 17 million tons — equivalent to removing 3.2 million cars from highways for a year or planting 400 million trees.

**Holistic Approach.** From advanced locomotive technology to zero-emission cranes, freight railroads leverage technology in all aspects of operations to limit their impact on

the environment. In 2017 alone, U.S. freight railroads consumed 732 million fewer gallons of fuel and emitted 8.2 million fewer tons of CO<sub>2</sub> than they would have if their fuel efficiency had remained constant since 2000.

**Building a Creative Force for Peace and Justice**

UUSC is helping to supply grassroots leaders with the funding, tools, and support they need to advance the rights of Central Americans all along the migration route. Recently, as their work at the U.S.-Mexico border has intensified, UUSC provided emergency support to our partner, Activate Labs, to deliver direct relief (fuel, water) to the Central American exodus. This was in addition to their ongoing support of Activate’s art-based trauma therapy for affected families. Activate Labs utilizes design thinking and experiential learning to equip community leaders with peacebuilding and storytelling tools. At a time when outsiders are giving “expert opinions” on immigration, Activate Labs gives migrants and refugees ownership over their own experiences and empowers them to speak their truth. UUSC funding provides space for innovative campaign work on immigration justice developed by social justice organizers and peacebuilders working at the intersection of immigration, the criminal justice system, and the Sanctuary movement.

[from *Toward Justice*, UUSC online news Feb-March 2019]

**In 2018, more than 80 human rights defenders were murdered in Central America and Mexico.**

UUSC currently supports 30 grassroots partner organizations working on Central American migrant justice in Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

**Volunteer Tutors Needed**

Literacy Services of IRC (one of our Sunday Fund recipients) is known for tutoring reading and English as a Second Language but also needs volunteers to tutor in math. GED preparation is another area for which they need tutors; the GED prep includes Reasoning through Language Arts (reading and writing), Mathematical Reasoning, Social Studies, and Science. To volunteer, call (772) 778-2223 or visit their office in the IRC main library.

Miss B’s Learning Bee’s Inc, is another volunteer tutoring program servicing elementary age children. See the flyer about that organization on the UUFVB public bulletin board if you might be interested in assisting.